

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed on June 20, 2006, and is filed herewith a Request for Continuing Examination. All objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 6-11, 13-17, 20, 23, and 26-30 are pending in the case.

Claims 29-30 are added to better claim the invention.

Request for Interview

The Applicant respectfully requests a telephonic interview with the Examiner after the Examiner has had an opportunity to consider this Amendment, but before the issuance of the next Office Action. The Applicant may be reached at 617-951-3067.

Claim Rejections -35 U.S.C. §102

At paragraphs 4-5 of the Office Action, claims 6-11, 13-17, 20, 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Eckstein et al., titled "Using Samba", published Nov. 1999, hereinafter Eckstein.

The present invention, as set forth in representative claim 6, comprises in part:

6. A method for creating and maintaining a plurality of virtual servers within a server, the method comprising the steps of:

partitioning resources of the server to establish an instance of each virtual server by allocating units of storage and network addresses of network interfaces of the server to each instance of the virtual server,

and sharing an operating system and a file system of the server among all of the virtual servers;

enabling controlled access to the resources using logical boundary checks and security interpretations of those resources within the server by comparing configuration information of a unit of storage requested by a particular vservers with the resources allocated to that particular vservers; and

providing a virtual server context structure including information pertaining to a security domain of the virtual server.

By way of background, Eckstein discloses a system for setting up server configurations in Unix or Windows by describing the Samba server process replication system. A server can be set up with guest use, printing share, specific volume for sharing, and read only and writeable capabilities.

Applicant respectfully urges that Eckstein does not disclose Applicant's claimed novel steps of *partitioning resources of the server to establish an instance of each virtual server by allocating units of storage and network addresses of network interfaces of the server to each instance of the virtual server ... enabling controlled access to the resources using logical boundary checks and security interpretations of those resources within the server by comparing configuration information of a unit of storage requested by a particular vservers with the resources allocated to that particular vservers.*

In further detail, Applicant's invention enables controlled access to the resources assigned to a particular vservers by comparing the configuration information of a particular unit of storage with the vservers requesting access. If a particular vservers assigned to a particular vservers by comparing the configuration information of a particular unit of storage with the vservers requesting access. If boundary check reveals that the vservers is not authorized to access, the request is immediately denied. However, if the request is allowed, the file system generates operations to process the request. In contrast, Eckstein

discloses using a username and password for authenticating access. This is shown for example at page 99 of Eckstein, which follows:

“Note that users can still connect to the share using a valid user-name/password combination. If successful, they will hold the access rights granted by their own account and not the guest account. If a user attempts to log in and fails, however, he or she will default to the access rights of the guest account. You can mandate that every user who attaches to the share will be using the guest account (and will have the permissions of the guest) by setting the option `guest only = yes`.”

In reference to the statement above, Eckstein does not teach or disclose comparing *configuration information of a unit of storage requested by a particular vservice with the resources allocated to that particular vservice*. Eckstein only determine access based on username and password and public access, which does not authenticate a user.

Furthermore, there is no suggestion or teaching in Eckstein of *partitioning resources of the server to establish an instance of each virtual server by allocating ... network addresses of network interfaces of the server to each instance of the virtual server*. In further detail, in Applicant's invention, partitioning and allocating assigns one or more network addresses to each instance of a virtual server. In sharp contrast, Eckstein discloses a technique for creating multiple servers by simply registering “more than one NetBIOS name in association with its IP address.” (Eckstein, pg 106, lines 34-35). In other words, Eckstein discloses assigning multiple NetBIOS (virtual servers) to one IP address. Applicant's invention assigns each instance of a virtual server to at least one network interface card and at least one unique network address, which allows for each virtual server to have its own IPspace. IPspace refers to a distinct network address (ex. IP address) environment running on the server.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully urges that the Eckstein publication is legally precluded from anticipating the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 because of the absence from the Eckstein publication of Applicant's steps of *partitioning resources of the server to establish an instance of each virtual server by allocating units of storage and network addresses of network interfaces of the server to each instance of the virtual server ... enabling controlled access to the resources using logical boundary checks and security interpretations of those resources within the server by comparing configuration information of a unit of storage requested by a particular vserver with the resources allocated to that particular vserver.*

All independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

All dependent claims are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims.

The Applicant respectfully solicits favorable action.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,



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